



A PUBLICATION FOR THE CITY OF FORT WORTH CITIZENS
VOLUME 2 • 2ND QUARTER 2006 SPRING EDITION



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Changes on the horizon for District 2

Dear North Fort Worth Citizens,

According to 2006 population estimates from the North Central Texas Council of Governments, Fort Worth's population has grown to approximately 661,865. Managing this growth while balancing the needs of our older, historic neighborhoods presents major policy challenges.

We have more than \$550 million in urgent stormwater needs that must be addressed to improve drainage and prevent neighborhood flooding. There are also more than \$400 million in poor streets/roads which must be reconstructed. The Fort Worth City Council has created a stormwater utility to address the flooding issues (see page 6). In 2004, voters approved the largest capital improvement package in the history of Fort Worth at \$273.50 million with more than \$30 million in improvements for District 2 including \$26 million for streets and storm sewer improvements. Now, the City Council is reviewing the possibility

of a potential critical capital needs package. In late April 2006, the Fort Worth City Council will participate in a Spring Retreat as it continues to deal with some very difficult policy choices.

Nevertheless, the state of our city is good. We have a good economy providing good jobs to the majority of residents, and our quality of life makes Fort Worth a special place to live. With the Southwest Parkway moving forward, our attention must turn to Interstate 35W. To that end, a private group called the 35W Coalition has been formed (see page 2). Additionally, I was part of a city delegation that recently traveled to Washington, D.C. to request \$5 million in funds from the Federal Highway Administration that would get things moving on I-35W. We had a very positive meeting with our North Texas congressional delegation and U.S. senators.

We continue to host community meetings and seek further engagement from citizens in District 2. The District 2 Advisory Council recently met and

received a briefing on the District and the Trinity River Vision (see page 4). The Riverside Town Hall Meeting in November had close to 200 people in attendance. A Town Hall Meeting for the communities in Northside/Diamond Hill/Far Greater Northside is scheduled for late March. We are also working toward scheduling a Town Hall Meeting for Far North Fort Worth (north of Loop 820).

On a personal note, our family was blessed with a new addition. Daniel Enrique Espino was born on October 15, 2005. The residents of District 2 and throughout Fort Worth continue to support my family and me with wonderful words of encouragement and wisdom. I am grateful that we have a good team in place—at home, on the city council, and with you, the citizens of our fine city. Together, we will continue to work hard to improve our District and our city.

Respectfully,

Salvador Espino
Salvador Espino

35W Coalition formed to foster transportation and development guidelines

A group of concerned citizens, business and land owners, developers and local and state officials recently announced the official formation of the 35W Coalition, a private, non-profit group that will serve as a catalyst in developing a plan for Fort Worth's burgeoning growth in the North Corridor.

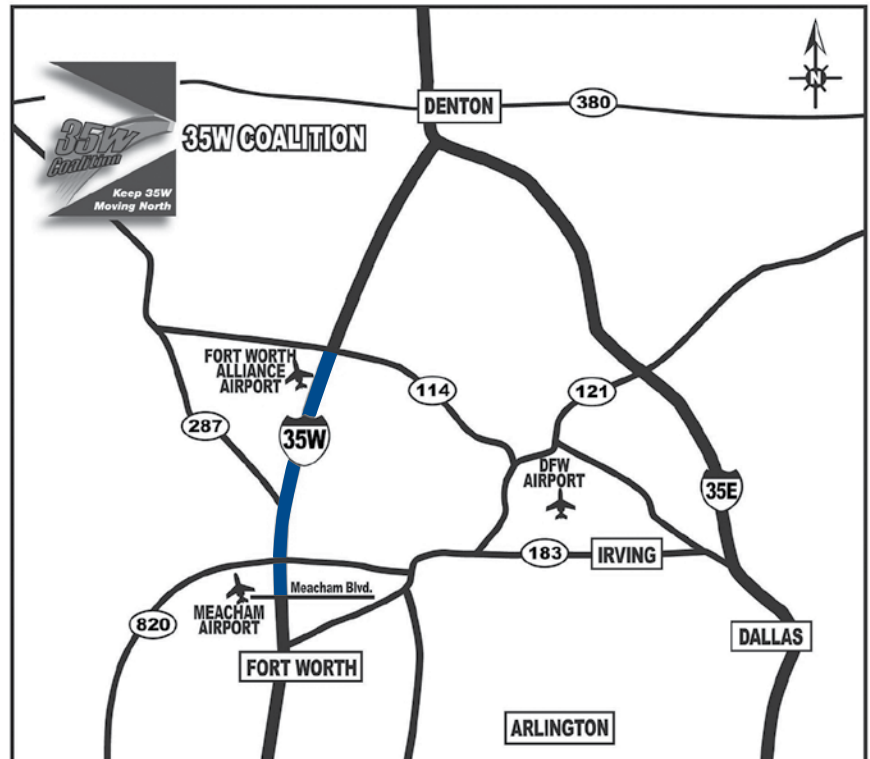
The Coalition's mission is to "Keep 35W Moving North" by finding solutions to transportation and traffic problems and encouraging quality development along I-35W in north Fort Worth and into Denton County. The 35W Coalition's efforts are focused on two areas:

- To significantly improve traffic flow on I-35W north from Meacham Boulevard to SH 114 (the Texas Motor Speedway) and the east/west corridor along Loop 820 and I-35W.
- To foster quality development and adopt development guidelines along the North Corridor.

"We want to be part of the solution on the front end, helping community partners improve transportation in this region while preserving the visual appeal and commercial value along major roads," said Mac Churchill, chairman of the 35W

Coalition. "We also want to effectively communicate with area residents, businesses and landowners, as well as policy makers, to ensure that all concerns are addressed."

The Coalition will hold regular public meetings, and the meeting schedule will be posted on the Coalition's Web site: www.35Wcoalition.com.



Youth Advisory Board

The youth advisory board was created on September 14, 2004.

It is comprised of 27 members appointed by the City Council. Members must be residents of Fort Worth, aged 14 to 18, or enrolled in high school.

The members are appointed by Council for two-year terms, as long as they meet eligibility requirements. The Board advises the City Council on youth issues important to the Community. The board meets on the third Monday of each month, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Pre-Council Chamber at City Hall. District 2 appointees include Noel Herron, Marlene Miranda and Diana Serrano.

The board is currently working on improving



Noel Herron



Marlene Miranda



Diana Serrano

and maintaining the youth Web site. The board is also sponsoring public service announcements promoting awareness of possible discrimination in employment that teens may experience and what they can do about it.

For more information, you may visit the Youth Advisory Board online at: www.fortworthgov.org/youth.

Neighborhood Patrol Officers, District 2

North Division • 2500 N. Houston

Capt. W. A. Read
817-871-6457

NPD #1 • 500 E. First Street

Lt. D. Garcia
817-871-6403

- Sylvania Park/Riverside, Scenic Bluff (A17):
J. Lamond, 817-944-8188

NPD #2 • 3457 Decatur

Lt. L.A. Harris
817-740-2103

- Diamond Hill (B12): Officer J. L. Lawson,
817-991-1309
- Meacham Field Area (B13): Officer B.R.
McClenny, 817-994-3408
- Rosen Heights (B14): Officer R. D. Guerrero,
817-999-6104
- Belmont/Northside/Marine Park (B16):
Officer K.A. Pace, 817-991-8463

NPD #3 • 7451 N. Beach St #120

Lt. D. W. Ingram
817-212-2879

- I-35/820/Northbrook (C12): Officer W. T.
Watkins, 817-343-4233
- Summerfields/Heritage/Vista Meadows (C15):
Officer T.D. Towns, 817-994-3428

- Park Glen/Summerfields East/Coventry Hills
(C16): Officer R.V. Desselles, 817-994-3453
- Woodland Springs/TMS (C17): Officer M.
Willoughby, 817-996-0406

Alliance Corridor: Officer W. T. Watkins (C12):
817-343-4233

Code Compliance Officers, District 2

Northeast District • 3700 E. Belknap, 76111
817-831-3093

- Jim Britton, Supervisor: 817-994-0693
- Richard Henninger: 817-994-6823
- Dolores Camp: 817-269-8646
- Carolyn Cummings: 817-475-8716
- Carl Ellis: 817-994-6969
- Peter Talleos: 817-999-8835

Northwest District • 3457 Decatur, 76106
817-740-2030

- Ramon Vera, Supervisor: 817-269-8696
- Gina Dissinger: 817-269-8691
- Everett Gray: 817-994-6941
- Mario Jacobo: 817-944-6895
- Boyd Oomging: 817-269-8650
- Eliseo Pena: 817-269-8690
- Ken Sauer: 817-991-6163
- Anthony Wypij: 817-944-5855

Neighborhood Associations, Alliances & Neighborhood Redevelopment Organizations

- Arcadia Park Estates Homeowner Assn
- Beechwood Creek
- Belmont Terrace NA
- Cabillito Del Mar Homeowner Assn
- Coventry Hills Homeowner Assn
- Diamond Hill-Jarvis Neighborhood Advisory Council
- Far Greater Northside Historical NA
- Fort Worth Coalition for Community Change
- Harvest Ridge Homeowner Assn
- Heritage Homeowner Assn
- High Crest Addition NA
- Karren's Diamond Hill Property Owner Assn
- Marine Park NA
- Near North Side Partners Council
- North Beverly Hills NA
- Northbrook NA
- North Fort Worth Historical Society
- North Side NA
- Oakhurst NA
- Ranchette Estates Homeowner Assn (ETJ)
- Riverside Alliance
- Scenic Bluff NA
- Sunset Hills
- Sylvan Heights West NA
- The Crossing of Fossil Creek Homeowner Assn
- The Ranches
- The Trails of Fossil Creek Community
Homeowner Association
- Trace Ridge Homeowner Assn
- Village of Woodland Springs Homeowner Assn

To find out more about these groups, contact the city's Neighborhood Office at 817-392-7525.

Trinity River Vision

A master plan for the Trinity River and major tributaries in greater Fort Worth

The Trinity River is a major part of Fort Worth's rich and colorful history. In 1849, an army outpost was established on the banks of the river at the confluence of the West Fork and the Clear Fork, and that convergence anchors our downtown today.

The \$435 million dollar, 10-year Trinity River Vision project is going to be one of the largest developments in the region since the construction of DFW Airport, and it will add new life to Fort Worth's greatest natural asset—the Trinity River.

Trinity Uptown is the urban component of that plan that addresses two primary goals: fail-proof flood protection and the development of new residential opportunities in the near north side.

Providing up to 10,000 mixed income residential units in the heart of Fort Worth is a unique opportunity to help alleviate urban sprawl, annexation and mobility issues. Trinity Uptown is also a tremendous opportunity for the development and growth of small businesses as well as women- and minority-owned businesses.

Overall, during the next 40 years, the Trinity River Vision is expected to include more than 10,300 residential units and 2.7 million square feet of office, retail and commercial space. The total economic impact during this time is estimated at \$1.6 billion.

The project will also bring \$518 million in real property tax revenue to the City of Fort Worth over the next 25 years, as well as



\$46 million in annual real property revenue to other taxing entities, including Fort Worth ISD.

The Trinity River Vision also means jobs for local residents. It is expected that the construction will require roughly 6,000 workers and the final product will generate 12,000 permanent jobs.

Another component of the Trinity River Vision incorporates restoration and enhancement of the current ecosystem, adding natural habitat and greenbelt. Additionally, it will provide recreational opportunities, enabling access to the river for our residents and continuing Fort Worth's popular trail system.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers formally approved the project and construction will begin this year. The Trinity River Vision will:

1. Help assure the greater Fort Worth area has open space, recreation and conservation areas to support a growing population, while continuing to provide essential flood

protection;

2. Provide trails and greenways that link major recreation areas, park areas, neighborhoods, and districts of the city;
3. Provide and preserve the open space and vegetation that is needed to maintain air and water quality and wildlife habitat that will help assure we can sustain environmental health over the long term;
4. Improve the river's accessibility to the public, attract more people to its banks, and increase its prominence within the city; and provide these quality-of-life elements and environmental integrity while assuring that the watercourses can manage storm water runoff, water conservation, and flood protection in a manner that protects public safety and property.

For more information about the Trinity River Vision, visit the Web site at: www.trinityrivervision.org.

Creating sound neighborhoods through Urban Villages

Recently, there has been major discussion regarding the benefits of having urban villages throughout the city. An urban village is defined as a developed place with a mix use of jobs, public spaces, transportation connections, pedestrian activity and which provides a sense of place for residents.

As word spread that the City of Fort Worth received \$4.5 million dollars designated for the urban village program, citizens began

discussing the new possibilities. For citizens living in District 2, two Urban Villages have been identified: The Mercado and Six Points.

Urban Villages serve as important catalysts for the public and private investment and economic activity. With the funds that have been awarded to District 2, citizens will begin to see many new improvements in their community.

Some of the new developments

may include sidewalks and street widenings, crosswalks, paving enhancements, traffic and pedestrian signals, street and pedestrian lighting, street trees, landscaping and irrigation, street signs and much more.

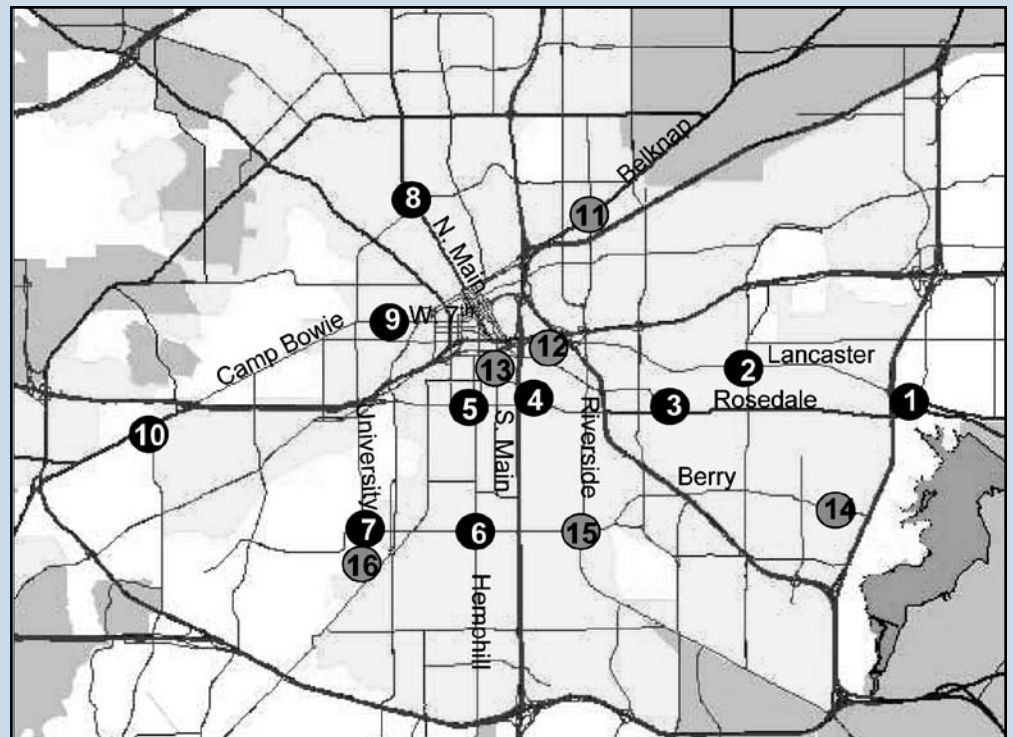
Due to the new funds given to District 2, citizens can look for Urban Village projects that will provide many resources to build a stronger and more economically sound community.

Continuing Urban Villages

1. Historic Handley
2. Oakland Corners
3. Polytechnic/Wesleyan
(includes Vickery/Nashville)
4. Evans & Rosedale
5. Magnolia
6. Hemphill/Berry
7. Berry/University
8. **Mercado ***
9. West Seventh
10. Ridglea

Additional Urban Villages

11. **Six Points ***
12. Near East Side
13. South Main
14. Berry/Stalcup
15. Berry/Riverside
16. Bluebonnet Circle



Continuing Urban Villages



Additional Urban Villages

*** DISTRICT 2**

Overview of Fort Worth's gas lease program

The City of Fort Worth Department of Engineering is responsible for managing the city's gas lease program. The city has also engaged the services of JP Morgan Chase (formerly Bank One) to assist in managing the city's gas and mineral assets and to carefully review all potential leases.

Gas wells developed on or under city-owned lands must comply with all applicable state and local laws and ordinances.

Knowing that every dollar earned is another dollar to improve municipal services and facilities, Fort Worth Council Members gave the go-ahead in August 2004 to lease city-owned properties for natural gas drilling.

The city is not carrying out the drilling; it is only leasing properties to private drillers and reaping significant financial benefits. City leaders did not rush into the lease agreements. It has been a cautious undertaking from the beginning.

The city's Gas Drilling and Production Ordinance, effective since December 2001, keeps everything in check. It protects neighborhoods and the environment. And it requires public information meetings prior to awarding a drilling lease, so city staff and drilling experts can explain the entire process and respond to citizen concerns.

Gas lease agreements for drilling on or under city-owned properties are awarded through a bid process, as outlined in the ordinance, and bid evaluations are based on more than anticipated monetary gain.

Before awarding a bid, the City of Fort Worth takes a hard look at a bidder's reputation, financial ability to provide services, safety record and history of complying with government regulations.

The overall goal of the agreement is to generate revenues that will have a positive impact on the community.

The city's portion of revenue from one successful well could be as much as \$2.5 million over its productive life of 10 to 20 years.

Proceeds go into accounts set aside to benefit the departments responsible for the properties. For example, the lease bonus and future royalties generated by current drilling at Gateway Park will be used to improve city parklands. Those generated from the lease of city-owned airport properties (Alliance, Spinks and Meacham) will go toward aviation enhancements.

It is important to note the city only profits from natural gas drilling on city-owned property. Most drilling occurring within the city limits of Fort Worth is being done by private companies that lease mineral rights from a mineral owner. Only the mineral owner and the mineral lessee profit from the operation.

For more information on natural gas drilling within the city limits of Fort Worth, visit www.fortworthgov.org/engineering or call 817-392-7950.

Gas lease ordinance under review

At the direction of the Fort Worth City Council, a citizen task force has been created to examine the current gas drilling ordinance and how drilling impacts neighborhoods as the practice moves closer to more populated areas within the City of Fort Worth.

The task force continues to conduct public meetings. Residents not serving on the task force will have an opportunity at the end of each meeting to voice their concerns.

All Task Force meetings will be conducted at 6:30 p.m. at the R.D. Evans Community Center, 3242 Lackland Road, unless stated otherwise. The schedule is as follows:

Task Force Meetings

- **March 16 Task Force Meeting:** Continued discussion of identified issues; staff presents proposed technical ordinance revisions.
- **March 30 Task Force Meeting:** Task Force finalizes recommendations for revisions to gas drilling ordinance.
- **April 4 Pre-Council Meeting:** Task Force presents recommendations to council; 3 p.m.; Pre-Council Chamber, City Hall, 1000 Throckmorton St.
- **April 13 Task Force Public Hearing:** Task Force conducts public hearing to obtain public comment on proposed revisions to gas drilling ordinance.
- **April 27 Task Force Meeting:** Task Force reviews comments received at public hearing; finalizes recommendations to gas drilling ordinance for council consideration.
- **May 2 Pre-Council Meeting:** Task Force presents recommendations to council; 3 p.m.; Pre-Council Chamber, City Hall, 1000 Throckmorton St.
- **May 9 City Council Meeting:** Council conducts final public hearing and adopts ordinance revising current gas drilling ordinance.

Fort Worth City Council puts charter amendments on ballot

On January 24, the City Council adopted an ordinance to place 15 charter amendments on the ballot. The following are the amendments that voters will have before them. Early voting will start on May 1 and run through May 9. Election Day is May 13. For more information, call 817-392-7621 or en Español: 817-392-8501.

PROPOSITION 1

To increase the compensation paid to each city council member to \$25,000.00 per year and \$29,000.00 per year for the mayor, effective October 1, 2006.

PROPOSITION 2

To reduce the number of required meetings of the City Council from 48 to 44 per year, to include both regular and special meetings in the minimum number of meetings, and to delete the minimum number of council meetings per month and maximum number of meetings per week.

PROPOSITION 3

An amendment providing that all general, special and run off elections be conducted on a date specified by state law.

PROPOSITION 4

An amendment to provide that the swearing in of newly elected council members will occur at the first City Council meeting after canvassing the election results.

PROPOSITION 5

An amendment to provide that if a City Council member shall become a candidate for nomination or election to any other public office, the member shall forfeit his or her

council office but shall continue to hold the office until a successor is duly qualified, if the holding over in office is required by state law.

PROPOSITION 6

An amendment to provide that in addition to complying with state law residence requirements, a candidate for Mayor or City Council must have continuously lived in the Council District for which he or she seeks election for six full months before the first allowed filing date for the election.

PROPOSITION 7

An amendment to delete the requirement that the City Manager post a bond.

PROPOSITION 8

An amendment to revise the publication and referendum requirements for the sale of city-owned property to increase the value of the property covered by the publication requirement from \$25,000 to \$125,000 and to increase the number of required signatures for a referendum on the sale from 500 to 10 percent of the number of voters who voted in the most recent mayoral election.

PROPOSITION 9

An amendment to provide that bids will be filed and opened by the City Manager or his or her designee.

PROPOSITION 10

An amendment to provide that Improvement Contracts shall be signed by the City Manager or his or her designee.

PROPOSITION 11

An amendment to delete obsolete

provisions in the charter regarding the collection of school taxes and the inclusion of school taxes in the calculation of a maximum tax rate.

PROPOSITION 12

An amendment to allow the publishing of a summary of the ordinance granting a franchise or easement across or upon streets or public places instead of the entire ordinance.

PROPOSITION 13

An amendment to conform with federal law prohibiting the city from giving preference to Fort Worth citizens when hiring department heads and assistant department heads.

PROPOSITION 14

An amendment to delete standardized wage rate language in city contracts.

PROPOSITION 15

An amendment to provide that an officer or an employee of a bank that serves as the city's depository bank shall be deemed not to have a financial interest in a city contract.

Water Wisely

Due to local drought conditions, the city's water supply is currently at about 77 percent of its capacity. In order to water wisely, the Water Department recommends irrigating lawns with no more than one inch of water every 10 to 15 days. Additionally, it is recommended that irrigation systems only run between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. For questions, call the Water Department at 817-392-4477.



Salvador Espino
Councilmember District 2
City of Fort Worth
1000 Throckmorton St.
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Helpful Numbers

This section is included to help residents find direct access to some of the most needed services in the communities. If additional assistance is needed, please feel free to contact District 2 Office.

Trash, recycling, brush, bulky waste	Environmental Management	817-392-3279
Barking dogs, animal abuse, dead animal, lost or found pet	Animal Care and Control.....	817-392-3737
High weeds and grass, junk vehicles, debris, open and vacant structures	Code Compliance	817-392-1234
Sidewalks, speed bumps, school zones, curbs	Transportation and Public Works.....	817-392-8100
Water service, billing, sewer issues	Water	817-392-4477
Permits, inspections, licensing	Development.....	817-392-7820
Construction services, engineering	Engineering.....	817-392-8306
Housing services, concerns, complaints	Housing.....	817-392-7546